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Number 78

October, 1920

FOREST INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A.D.Hopkins, Forest Entomologist in Charge

In October, 1920, a scale insect identified by H. Morrison of this Bureau as Leucaspis japonica Ckll., was found injuring a privet hedge at Cleveland Park, Washington, D. C. Mr. Morrison states that this scale has apparently not been reported from the District of Columbia previously. Every effort was made to exterminate it, since it is likely to be a serious pest.

This fall we have received much correspondence in regard to injury to the foliage of shade trees and hardy shrubs by mites. Dr. H.E.Ewing has identified many of these mites, quite a number of species being involved.

On October 16 Dr. F. C. Craighead left Washington to investigate barkbeetles killing seed trees left on cut-over pine lands in the vicinity of New Orleans, La. The lumber companies leave seed trees to reforest cut-over lands naturally, and if the seed trees are killed by insects there is no reproduction or new growth.

On October 18 S. A. Rohwer left Washington for a trip to Philadelphia, New Haven, Boston, New York, and Harrisburg to make a study of types of Hymenoptera and to study the collections in museums at these localities.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

A.L.Quaintance, Entomologist in Charge

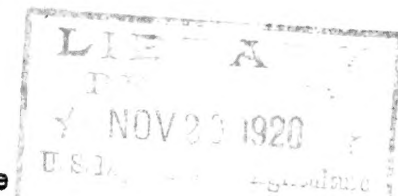
John J. Davis, who has been in charge of the Japanese beetle project at Riverton, N. J., has resigned to accept the position of head of the Department of Entomology of Purdue University and Experiment Station. Mr. Davis, however, has been appointed as collaborator of this office.

C.H.Hadley, who has been Mr. Davis's principal assistant at Riverton, N.J., has been placed in charge of the Japanese beetle project.

Joseph L. King, a graduate of Ohio State University and postgraduate of the University of Illinois, has been appointed as specialist in insect parasites and is now en route to Yokohama, Japan, where he will assist C.P.Clausen in collecting and rearing parasites of the Japanese beetle for introduction into New Jersey.

Julian J. Culver, who has been in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Fort Valley, Ga., has been transferred to the Insecticide and Fungicide Board, with headquarters at Vienna, Va., where he will assist in connection with testing proprietary insecticides to determine the efficacy of claims made by manufacturers on the labels of their preparations.

O.I.Snapp, who has been engaged in research work with headquarters at Agricultural College, Miss., has been placed in general charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Fort Valley, Ga., where a reinvestigation of the



life history and habits of the plum curculio will be undertaken, as well as large-scale experimental work in orchards.

E. R. Selkregg, who has been in charge of the Bureau's laboratory at Dover, Del., has been transferred to Fort Valley, Ga., where he will be charged with life-history studies of the plum curculio.

LIBRARY

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Mabel Colcord, Librarian

New Books

Austen, E. E. The house-fly; its life history and practical measures for its suppression. 52 p., illus., pls. London, 1920. (British Museum (Natural History) Economic Series No. 1 a.)

Felt, E. P. New Indian gall midges (Diptera). 11 pp. London, 1920. (India Dept. of Agriculture. Memoirs, Entomological Series, v. 7, no. 1.)

Hampson, Sir George F. Catalogue of the Lithosiadae (Arctianae) and Phalaenoididae in the collection of the British Museum. 619 p., illus. London, 1920. (Catalogue of the Lepidoptera Phalaenae in the British Museum, Supplement, v. 2.).

Lang, W. D. A handbook of British Mosquitoes. 125 p., illus., 5 pl. London, British Museum, 1920

Misra, C. S. The rice leaf-hoppers (Nephotettix bipunctatus Fabr. and Nephotettix apicalis Motsch.), p. 207-239. London, 1920. (India Dept. of Agriculture. Memoirs, Entomological Series, v. 5, no. 2.)

Marchand, Werner. Thermotropism in insects. Entomological News, v. 31, no. 6, p. 159-165. June 1920. Literature, p. 165.

Ramachandran, Y. Lantana insects in India; being the report on an enquiry into the efficiency of indigenous insect pests as a check on the spread of lantana in India. p. 239-314, illus., plates 24-37. London, 1920. (India Dept. of Agriculture. Memoirs, Entomological Series, v. 5, no. 6)

Schrader, Franz. Sex determination in the white-fly (Trialeurodes vaporariorum). Journal of Morphology, v. 34, no. 2, p. 267-298, Sept. 21, 1920.

Statesman's yearbook, v. 57. London, Macmillan & Co., Ltd., 1920.

Whiting, P. W. Genetic studies of the Mediterranean flour-moth, Ernestia kuhniella Zeller. Journal of Experimental Zoology, v. 28, no. 3, p. 413-445, 2 pls. July, 1919.

Who was who, a companion to "Who's who," containing the biographies of those who died during the period 1897-1916. London, A. & C. Black, Ltd., 1920. 739 p.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

W. R. Walton, Entomologist in Charge

W. A. Baker, a graduate of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, has been appointed scientific assistant, and detailed for duty at San Antonio, Texas, on the sorghum midge investigations under C. H. Gable. Mr. Baker will report for duty November 1.

J. W. Jones, formerly attached to the corn borer activities at Arlington, Mass., has been transferred to Carlisle, Pa., where he will be engaged in investigations of the Hessian fly and its parasites.

P. R. Myers has been placed in charge of the field laboratory operated at Carlisle, Pa., to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Mr. W. R. McConnell. Mr. Myers was Mr. McConnell's assistant for many years and is therefore thoroughly familiar with the work.

D. W. Jones, formerly in charge of a portion of the giply moth parasite work under A. F. Burgess, has been transferred to the corn borer investigations at Arlington, Mass., under D. J. Caffrey. Mr. Jones has been placed in charge of the foreign parasite introduction work in order to care for the parasitic material which is being collected by W. R. Thompson in Southern Europe. Mr. Jones's transfer is effective November 1.

V. L. Wildermuth recently returned to Tenne from a trip to Yuma, Ariz., and reports that the infestation of *Bruchophagus* in the alfalfa in that region this year runs as high as 60 per cent or more.

A supplementary brood of the Hessian fly occurred in northern Illinois and central Indiana after the wheat appeared above ground, and is causing entomologists a good deal of anxiety because of the fact that this may neutralize their efforts in securing the planting of the wheat at a safe date. The extent of this supplementary generation is still a matter of doubt. It seems to have been of a fairly large proportion.

The corn borer scouting work will be practically finished during the early part of November. The scouts working throughout the corn belt States have failed so far to find any indication of the corn borer west of the western boundary of New York State. The infestation in western New York has extended during the past few months in a southwesterly direction along the shore of Lake Erie nearly to the western border of the State, in the towns of Portland and Westfield. No trace of the corn borer has been found in Erie County, Pa., where a few specimens were discovered by the Pennsylvania State authorities last year. In the New England area the infestation has spread but slightly. The most notable extension has been toward the northeast, on the New Hampshire coast, and very recently one township, that of Eliot, in Maine, has been found infested. On the southern border an infestation was found in the city of New Bedford, which constitutes the nearest approach of the insect to the Rhode Island line, so far as is known. The natural spread in eastern New York has been also comparatively slight this year. A re-

markable phenomenon was the failure of about 50 per cent of the caterpillars in the New England area to develop more than one generation. This fact, of course, may be partly responsible for the comparatively slight natural spread of the insect which evidently has occurred.

During the past summer a substation has been maintained at Ritzville, Wash., in cooperation with the State Agricultural College, for the purpose of investigating the wireworms attacking wheat in the Columbia Plateau region. As a result of these investigations, it has been decided to maintain this station during the winter in order to be in readiness to push the work in the very early spring, as it has been found that the insects do practically all their feeding during the early spring months, while moisture is most abundant. A temporary laboratory building has been secured in order to provide for the biological work necessary in connection with these investigations.

Raymond C. Shannon, who has spent the summer on the wireworm work under Dr. A. L. Melander, has returned to Washington, D. C., and is temporarily employed by this branch of the Bureau.

TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL FRUIT INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

C. L. Marlatt, Entomologist in Charge

Wm. M. Mann visited Boston during the month for the purpose of comparing ants which he had collected in Central America, and some which had been received by the Bureau from other sources, with specimens in the Wheeler collection.

A. D. Borden has been cooperating with the farm adviser of Los Angeles County, Calif., by giving talks and demonstrations on the control of the Argentine ant and mealybugs in citrus groves. He reports that such work is stimulating the interest of the growers and, as a result, requests for talks on control measures are being received from a number of farm centers.

C. A. Weigel gave an illustrated talk on the chrysanthemum midge at a recent meeting of the Philadelphia Florists' Club.

TRUCK CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

F. H. Chittenden, Entomologist in Charge

Neale F. Howard, who has for some time been stationed at Bowling Green, Ohio, under this division, is being transferred to Birmingham, Ala., effective November 15, to take up research work in connection with the recent introduction of the Mexican Bean beetle or bean ladybird in Alabama.

F. Fred A. Johnston, entomological assistant, at the Kingsville, Texas station, has been transferred to the Federal Horticultural Board to assume duties as inspector at Nogales, Ariz. Mr. Johnston has been connected with this branch of the Bureau since 1910 and it is very regrettable that ill health which demanded a change of climate has rendered this transfer necessary.

J. E. Graf and C. H. Popenoe represented this branch at the recent meeting of the Horticultural Board at Birmingham, Ala., in connection with the recently discovered introduction of the Mexican bean beetle in that vicinity. A number of fields were observed where complete destruction has occurred within a month, and there is no question but that the outbreak is a serious one for the bean and cowpea growing sections of the eastern and southern United States. Even where spraying with arsenicals has been resorted to as a control measure in Alabama, it has been only partially successful although the insects are evidently repelled to some extent by this treatment. Characteristic injury to the green pods of snap beans was noted, the insects having been evidently repelled from the foliage by arsenical spraying, the bean pods attacked being entirely ruined for consumption.

SOUTHERN FIELD CROP INSECT INVESTIGATIONS

J. L. Webb, Entomologist Acting in Charge

B. R. Coad of Tallulah, La., spent several days in Washington in connection with the completion of the motion picture film depicting boll weevil control measures.

Joseph N. Crister and J. C. Woolley, both of the boll weevil force, have resigned.

The temporary appointments of L. N. Judah and T. P. Weakley, tobacco insect investigations, have been terminated.

Francis F. Bibby, K. P. Ewing, R. C. Gaines, and L. G. Plyler of the boll weevil force have been transferred to the Federal Horticultural Board.

